

renamed vessels have been registered in the name of his partner, Herr Jensen. The headquarters of the victualling fleet is at Antwerp. British dealers are benefiting greatly by the vast quantities of stores shipped from London and other English ports to the Russian vessels.

JAPAN READY TO GO ON.

Premier Katsura Apparently Not Hopeful of Peace Now.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. TOKIO, Feb. 25.—Prime Minister Katsura, in an address at a conference of Governors to-day declared that Japan was prepared to conduct a second year of the war without muting. The balance of the war, he said, was immensely in Japan's favor. Russia recognized this, but nevertheless from the viewpoint of the Czar's Government it would be unimply for that country to seek peace.

Yafu Katsura asserted that Japan's resolution to prosecute the campaign with the utmost vigor and confidence was unchanged. He declared that Japan ought to exercise untiring energy in demonstrating her staying powers before the eyes of other nations.

JAPANESE TAKE THE AGGRESSIVE.

Captain Beresford Hill Southeast of Mukden, After Hard Fighting.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 25.—A telegram from Sachetang says that the Japanese attacked Beresford Hill, the base of the Russian position at Tsinshuhen, fifty-five miles southeast of Mukden, last night, and were repulsed. They renewed the attack to-day with superior numbers, forcing one Russian detachment to abandon its base. The battle was desperate.

A later despatch from Gen. Sakharoff, Gen. Kuropatkin's chief of staff, says that the Japanese to-day attacked and captured Beresford Hill. They assumed the offensive before Tanshin, but their attack at that point was repulsed.

Gen. Sakharoff says: "The enemy had in position against Beresford Hill sixteen mountain guns besides a field battery. The Russians evacuated the hill after a bayonet fight in which the Japanese were in considerably superior numbers. The Japanese advanced over the bodies of their own dead, over exploding surface mines and through barbed wire entanglements. Their losses were considerable. Ours have not yet been ascertained."

German Coal Steamer Captured.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. TOKIO, Feb. 25.—A Japanese warship has captured the German steamship Severn on its way to Vladivostok with a cargo of Welsh coal.

HENRY WHITE RETURNS.

Ambassador-to-Be to Italy—Others on the Philadelphia.

Henry White, Secretary to the American Embassy at London, arrived last night aboard the American liner Philadelphia from Liverpool and Queenstown. He will be appointed Ambassador to Italy. He said that he was not supposed to have official knowledge of his selection by President Roosevelt, that he was here on his customary sixty days leave of absence, but might be obliged to cut it short for official reasons, which doubtless relate to his duty as Ambassador to Italy. Mr. White said that Ambassador Choate was well and would return to New York in May.

Mr. White passed by the Philadelphia with the Right Rev. John Shanley, Bishop of Fargo, N. D.; David Fraser, war correspondent of the London Times; Rear Admiral Chadwick, recently in command of the South Atlantic squadron, now merged with the North Atlantic, and seventeen students of Argentina, who are here to attend American universities and colleges.

Mr. Fraser is on his way to Manchuria. He was with Kuroki several months before returning to England last fall. He was skeptical about the report that Japan had suggested settling the war on the terms suggested in the newspapers of yesterday. He said he believed the Japanese feeling was to fight to a finish now to prevent the recurrence of Russian attack in the near future.

The Japanese, he said, could defeat the Russians at Mukden and attack them at Vladivostok, and why should they "chicken" under such circumstances? Anyhow, Mr. Fraser said, the Russian Government would not give up the fight until Kuropatkin got a good hammering. The young men of Argentina are a very bright looking lot. One is as blond as a Sax. Although they are the sons of well-to-do folks, all but two will be educated here, chiefly at Cornell, at the expense of Argentina. Some will become civil and electrical engineers, others will be specialists of agriculture and several will be veterinarians.

PRIZEFIGHT, POLICE SAY.

One Hundred and Seven Men Arrested in Raid on West Side Stable.

One hundred and seven prisoners made the bag when the police raided an alleged prizefight in a stable on Sixty-fourth street, west of West End avenue, at 11 o'clock last night.

For the past two weeks tickets announcing that a smoker and stag would be held and high class talent would appear, admission \$1, have been circulating on the upper West Side. Capt. Conroy of the West Sixty-eighth street station got hold of one and planned to surprise the gathering.

A preliminary fight of ten rounds between two featherweights, Jack McLean and Dan Collins, had taken place before the police arrived. They interrupted the sixth round of a scrap between two colored heavyweights, Paul Lightwood and Henry Elam, which was scheduled to go ten rounds. A 24-foot ring had been roped off in the center of the stable, with a large tarpaulin for a floor. The main part of the evening, the police say, was to have been a finish fight between two West Side welterweights, Marty Reddy and O'Connell Flynn. Joe Keller, who real name the police say is Joe Keller, was acting as referee of the second fight, they allege, when they broke in the stable door with axes.

A panic broke when the smashing began. Capt. Conroy had surrounded the building with reserves. Every cop who entered the place held his revolver in plain sight and the Captain shouted that anybody who tried to get away would be shot.

The crowd swarmed up ladders to the hayloft, but a lookout at the window told them that their escape was cut off and all surrendered. The patrol wagons from the West Forty-eighth street, West Sixty-eighth street, West 100th street and Central Park stations were speedily at hand, and the whole crowd was driven to the West Sixty-eighth street police station.

Princess Margaret Victoria to Wed.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Feb. 25.—It is officially announced that Princess Margaret Victoria, the eldest daughter of the Duke of Connaught, is betrothed to Prince Oscar, son of the Crown Prince of Sweden. The Prince and Princess were both born in 1882.

La Bretagne Signalled.

The steamship La Bretagne from Havre was in wireless communication at 6 o'clock last night with the Siasconnet station. She was about fifty miles southeast of the Nantucket lightship and will reach here early this morning.

RUSSIANS WHOLLY AT FAULT.

NO JUSTIFICATION FOR ATTACK ON BRITISH FISHING FLEET.

Russian Commissioner Alone Dissents From This View—Report Says No Torpedo Boats Were Among the Trawlers—Admiral Rojdestvensky Criticized.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. PARIS, Feb. 25.—The report of the international commission which investigated the action of the Russian Baltic fleet under Admiral Rojdestvensky in firing on the Gamecock trawling fleet while passing through the North Sea on Oct. 22 last, sinking one of the British vessels, killing 10 men and wounding several others, was made public at 3.30 o'clock this afternoon.

The opinion of the majority of the commission is that there were no torpedo boats among the trawlers and that Admiral Rojdestvensky's action in firing upon the fishing fleet was therefore unjustifiable. The Russian Commissioner alone dissented on this point. He declares that in his opinion it was the hostile action of fishing vessels that caused the firing by the Russians.

The report reviews in detail the evidence which was taken at the hearings held here by the commission and approves the orders issued by Admiral Rojdestvensky to his officers, previous to the departure of the fleet from Laitau, for their guidance in case of attack.

The commission finds that the battleship Kniaz Suvaroff, while passing the trawlers, noticed first a green flare and then the appearance of a suspicious vessel which was taken to be a torpedo boat. Admiral Rojdestvensky thereupon gave orders to fire upon this doubtful craft. The report continues:

"The act of firing on the fishing fleet when no torpedo boats were present was, in the opinion of the majority of the commission, unjustifiable. The Russian Commissioner dissents from this opinion and holds that the action of unknown vessels was responsible for what happened. The majority consider that the firing, even according to the Russian version, was unduly prolonged. The fishing fleet was in no way guilty of hostile action."

The commissioners, while recognizing that under the circumstances Admiral Rojdestvensky had good reason for continuing his voyage, after discovering his error, without stopping to render assistance to the fishermen, express regret that he did not, while he was in the English Channel, inform the naval authorities of the neighboring Powers that the trawlers needed assistance.

The last paragraph of the report points out that it was probably the arrival of belated Russian vessels that caused the Russian Commissioner to fire, and that the firing was not justified. The Russian Commissioner dissents from this opinion and holds that the action of unknown vessels was responsible for what happened. The majority consider that the firing, even according to the Russian version, was unduly prolonged. The fishing fleet was in no way guilty of hostile action."

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ARTIAL LAW NOW AT BAKU.

Rioting Went On Three Days—Porte Protested to Russia.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 25.—Reports from the Caucasus say that the whole region is seething with dissensions. In Bakuom the Prefect of Police, a Cossack officer and several merchants have been assassinated recently.

Armenians, Jews and others are aiding the strikers, who are apparently acting under orders from a secret committee at St. Petersburg.

The Porte has drawn the attention of the Russian Embassy here in a friendly manner to conditions at Bakuom, where many Ottomans are seeking the protection of the Ottoman consulate. Many subjects of the Sultan have been killed by Georgian strikers.

The Russian Embassy has promised that peremptory orders shall be given in the matter, but there has been no improvement yet.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 25.—Martial law has been declared at Baku, the centre of the oil industry on the Caspian Sea, where many persons have been killed in riots. The inhabitants have been forbidden to leave their houses between 5 P. M. and 6 A. M. under penalty of a fine of 500 rubles or three weeks' imprisonment.

Detailed reports of the disorders at Baku show that the feeling between the Mussulmans and the Armenians was greatly accentuated during the riots on Feb. 20, when thirty-five persons were killed or wounded. There was firing all day on Feb. 21, and the casualties on that day numbered 100. The bazars and many shops were plundered.

After serious disturbances on Feb. 22, the Armenian and Mussulman clergy embraced one another before the crowds, which then manifested willingness to be reconciled. After that things were quieter.

RUSSIA DELAYS HER REPLY.

Our Note on Officers Breaking Their Parole Remains Unanswered.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Although it is nearly two weeks since the United States Government called the attention of Russia to the fact that three officers of the Russian cruiser Lena, interned at San Francisco, had broken their paroles by going back to St. Petersburg, no response has yet been received from the Russian Government. Officials of the Government do not display an attitude of impatience, although it is thought that Russia has had plenty of time to send a response to our inquiry.

It is presumed that Russia is investigating the entire affair from the San Francisco end and that as soon as the Consul there makes his report to St. Petersburg an answer will be received by the United States. State Department officials and Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador, agree in the opinion that the matter will be satisfactorily settled.

CANAL BILL TO CONFERENCE.

Senate Also Takes Disposition of the Statehood Measure.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The Senate this morning, in ten minutes, between 5.50 and 10 o'clock, disposed of the Statehood and Canal Zone bills by sending them to conference. Mr. Morgan withdrew opposition to both bills, and thus the only obstacle in the way was removed.

When the Senate met Mr. Morgan was the first Senator in his seat. He fully expected that he would receive the filibustering speech he began last night. The House request for a conference on the Canal Zone bill was laid before the Senate. Mr. Morgan making no objection, President Frye proceeded to name the conferees, Messrs. Kittredge, Millard and Morgan. Mr. Morgan stated that his objection to the continuance of the Isthmian Canal Commission, which is abolished in the bill as passed by the House, precluded him from serving as a conferee. He was excused, and Mr. Morgan was appointed in his place.

The Statehood bill being laid before the Senate, Mr. Morgan said that he had made a speech last night at an embarrassing time, and with the expectation that he had labored under the impression that the opponents of the bill were bent upon preventing the appointment of a conference committee. As his speech had proceeded, he discovered that he was alone in his opposition, and that by further objecting to a conference he was placing himself in the attitude of opposing his own side as well as the other. He withdrew his objection.

Mr. Morgan said that he was engaged in the interest of the Moscow manufacturer, who volunteered to give bail and his personal security for Gorki's appearance for trial.

Moroff and a friend of Gorki went yesterday to give bail and were told that Governor General Trepoft was especially interested in the case and that he alone could decide whether bail could be accepted.

Mme. Gorki saw Gen. Trepoft personally. He said: "You must have patience, because I will not liberate him till I know how he will act."

Mme. Gorki said: "He is seriously ill. The prison doctor has found that his left lung is tuberculous. He also is suffering from articular rheumatism. His general health is such that further imprisonment might cause his death."

Gorki's friends do not expect his early liberation. The interview with him occurred with grills, six feet apart, separating him and his friends, the governor of the prison standing between. The people holding conversation with Gorki thrust their heads through holes in the grills and see only Gorki's face, which shows that he is ill.

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Nine Hour Day for Workmen in Government Railroad Shops.

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No beauty can stand the disfigurement of bad teeth. Take care of your teeth. Only one way—

SOZODONT

Liquid, Powder or Paste

ASK YOUR DENTIST

CZAR MAKES ANOTHER FLOP.

DECIDES NOT TO SUMMON THE ZEMSKY SOBOR.

Said to Be Determined to Go On With the War—Europe Driven to Believe Another Blow Must Be Struck by Japan—Railway Strike Endangers Russian Army.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Feb. 25.—Sufficient proof of the complete demoralization of the Russian Government is contained in the hopelessly contradictory "official" announcements telegraphed from St. Petersburg daily in succession during the current week. Thus THE SUN's correspondent at St. Petersburg on Wednesday announced on M. Witte's authority the decision of the Czar not to summon a Zemsky Sobor or any representative assembly.

The Times affirmed on Friday on the highest official authority that the Emperor would refer the decision of peace or war to a Zemsky Sobor, which would be summoned immediately. THE SUN's St. Petersburg correspondent to-day thus quotes the text of the Imperial refusal to convoke the Sobor on the advice of the Ministers.

"At a conference held on Feb. 24, by a special committee of Ministers, current events were under deliberation. A majority of the committee regarded the proposed convocation of the Zemsky Sobor (people's assembly) as impossible, in view of the many conditions that demand previous regularization."

There is no doubt of the official character of each of these announcements, but it does not follow that the latest will not be reversed next week.

It is a waste of time under such circumstances to make any estimate of what will be the next development of Russia's crisis. THE SUN's St. Petersburg correspondent telegraphs to-night that all the latest reports of the Emperor's attitude represent him as grimly determined to carry on the war. This really signifies nothing beyond the present hour with a man of his character, or lack of character.

It is said he has been encouraged in the latest view by the provincial administrators, who are opposed to peace on account of the dangers incident to the return of the troops, who would reinforce the proletariat. It is even argued that it is safer to let the Japs kill or capture them than risk their presence in Russia. The Czar's latest attitude is, of course, a direct incitement to fresh assassination and other forms of violence.

In regard to peace prospects European opinion, official and unofficial, finds itself driven to believe that still another blow of some nature will be necessary to force the purling Russian Government to realize the desperate situation which confronts it. The most imminent danger is the railroad strike. The movement will soon cut off all supplies for Manchuria, if it hasn't already done so.

It is the critical point at the present moment. THE SUN's correspondent telegraphs that all the railroad men there quit work and marched to the residence of the Governor of Yenisei Province, which they found surrounded by troops. The Governor eventually received a deputation from the strikers and promised to reply to their demands, which included political rights.

Advices from other points indicate that the railway movement is national. The men at all the railway centers are determined to paralyze the Government, and this alone will soon suffice to compel the authorities to sue for peace or sacrifice Gen. Kuropatkin's army.

Charges and countercharges that the peace rumors are due to efforts of each side to secure better terms and fresh loans deceive nobody. Peace is expected throughout Europe, if for no other reason than because it is not regarded as conceivable that a government would attempt to continue for any length of time a hopeless struggle in the face of the overwhelming difficulties which confront Russia at home and at the seat of war.

GORKI NOT RELEASED.

Ball Offered, but Gen. Trepoft Hesitates to Turn Him Loose.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 25.—The Government has not yet released Maxim Gorki, although on Thursday it was decided that the charge which will be pressed and which might carry a maximum penalty of four years imprisonment in the fortress penitentiary and the ball was fixed at 10,000 rubles.

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